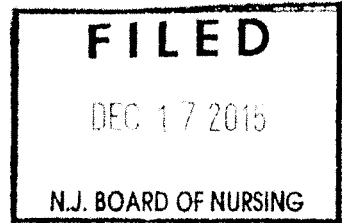


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	
	:	
	:	
<b>MICHAEL A. LANCETTA, R.N.</b>	:	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
<b>License No. 26NR14396100</b>	:	
	:	<b>CONSENT ORDER</b>
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of a complaint from the mother of J.R., deceased.

In January 2013, Michael A. Lancetta, R.N. ("Respondent") worked as a nurse in the psychiatric unit of Kennedy Memorial Hospital, Presbyterian Medical Center. J.R. was admitted as a patient after she attempted suicide. J.R. also presented to the hospital with a history of drug and alcohol addiction which was

documented in her patient record.

Respondent states that he met J.R. a few months prior to her admission to the hospital, exchanged phone numbers with her and had spoken to her on the telephone a few times. Respondent provided nursing care to J.R. while she was a patient in the hospital.

After J.R.'s release from the hospital, the relationship between Respondent and J.R. continued. Respondent and J.R. had occasion to drink alcohol together and J.R. slept in the home of Respondent.

Respondent, an active reservist in the United States Air Force, kept a permitted hand gun in his home - specifically in his nightstand drawer. While J.R. was staying at Respondent's home, Respondent showed her where the gun was located and told her that it was ready to shoot if she ever needed it for personal safety.

On or about March 24, 2013, J.R. was staying at Respondent's home while he worked the night shift. When Respondent arrived home in the morning, he found J.R. dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound caused by Respondent's gun.

The Board finds that Respondent has engaged in a boundary violation for the ongoing relationship with a prior patient, which the Board deems professional misconduct subject to

sanction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e). Additionally, the Board finds that Respondent lacked critical thinking skills necessary to fundamental nursing practice when he provided alcohol to a newly released psychiatric patient with a substance abuse history and provided a patient with documented suicidal ideation access to a loaded gun.

The Board having reviewed this matter, and having considered the nature of the above conduct, the parties desiring to resolve this matter, and the Board having determined that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this day 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2015

**HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:**

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing is hereby suspended for a period of five (5) years, with thirty (30) months to be served as an active period of suspension and the remainder to be stayed and served as a period of probation. The period of active suspension will be tolled for any length of time that Respondent practices nursing in another jurisdiction.
2. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for engaging in

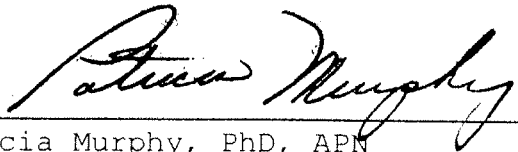
professional misconduct.

3. Respondent shall attend and document satisfactory completion of a boundaries and ethics course, specifically the Professional/Problem Based Ethics (ProBE) Program provided by the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians, within six (6) months of the date of the filing of this Order. Respondent shall also attend and document satisfactory completion of a board approved course in treating patients with substance abuse within six (6) months of the date of the filing of this Order, or as extended by agreement with the Board. Respondent shall bear the cost of the courses and shall not use any credits obtained through the courses towards the fulfillment of his biennial continuing education requirement in the State of New Jersey. Respondent shall submit a certificate of satisfactory completion to the Board within thirty (30) days of completion of the courses. Successful completion shall mean that all sessions were attended, all assignments were properly and appropriately completed and a passing grade was achieved which was unconditional and without reservation.
4. The Board shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information


indicating that Respondent has violated any term of this Order, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

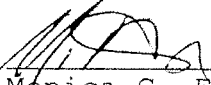
  
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President

I have read and understand  
the within Consent Order  
and agree to be bound by  
its terms.

  
Michael A. Lancetta, R.N.  
License # 26NR14396100

Date 11 Dec. 2015

I hereby consent to the form of this Order.

  
Monica C. Fillmore, Esq.  
Counsel to Michael A. Lancetta, R.N.

Date 12/11/15